



Catawba County Voluntary Agricultural District Program

Adopted in October 2008.

Through a joint effort of North Carolina Cooperative Extension and Catawba County Planning, an Agriculture Advisory Board has been developed and will administer this newly formed program in Catawba County.

As the Board continues to develop membership and ordinances to govern the program in Catawba County the information listed below will help visitors to this link understand the purpose of the program. Please visit this link frequently as this information will be updated regularly.

The purpose of the Agricultural District Program is to encourage the preservation and protection of farmland from non-farm development. This is in recognition of the importance of agriculture to the economic and social well being of North Carolina.

Agricultural District ordinances provide for the creation of an Agricultural Advisory Board to administer the program. The Board reviews and approves applications for qualifying farmland as well as establishing the agricultural district.

Members of the Agricultural District agree not to develop for a period of at least ten years (this is a voluntary requirement of the Voluntary Agricultural District and a mandatory requirement of the Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District). In exchange for remaining in farming Agricultural District members receive:

- signs identifying them as a member,
- increased protection from nuisance suits,
- eligibility for funding, and
- an official role in county or city government.

In addition Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District members may receive up to 25% of their gross farm sales from the sale of nonfarm products and still qualify as a bona fide farm that is exempt from zoning regulations under G.S. 153A-340(b) and are eligible to receive a higher percentage of cost-share funds under the Agriculture Cost Share Program pursuant to Part 9 of Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.



If you would like to learn more about the North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation program please visit <http://www.ncadfp.org/>

VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURE DISTRICTS

Legend

County Agriculture District

- Yes
- No

Municipal Agriculture District

- Resolution in Accordance With County Ordinance

NOTICE

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State of North Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Emergency Preparedness

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